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## REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTICES.

An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary, based on the manuscript collections of the late JOSEPH BOSWORTH, D. D., F. R. S. Edited and enlarged by T. NORTHCOTE TOLLER, M. A. Part I, A-Fir. Part II, Fir-Hwi. Oxford, at the Clarendon Press, 1882. pp. 576.

A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles; founded mainly on the materials collected by the Philological Society. Edited by JAMES A. H. MURRAY, LL. D., with the assistance of many scholars and men of science. Part I, A-Ant. Oxford, at the Clarendon Press. New York, Macmillan & Co., 1884. pp. xvi, 352.

English lexicography is at last beginning to receive the attention it deserves and requires. The publication of the works above mentioned, of the second especially, will carry beyond the narrow circle of scholars the much-needed public information that the English language has a history, a history which every English-speaking man and woman should know; and that the English language did not begin with Shakspeare, nor even with Chaucer—an old story, but one hitherto much neglected. Prof. Toller has done well to re-edit Bosworth's Anglo-Saxon Dictionary, first published in 1838,—*how* well, critics are still engaged in discussing. That the work needed re-editing no one will deny. Every Anglo-Saxon scholar has long felt the want of such a dictionary. The original work has been long out of print, and even if accessible, could not answer the demands of modern scholarship. Bosworth's Compendious Anglo-Saxon and English Dictionary (1860) is too meagre to serve any but the most elementary purposes, so that English scholars were dependent upon German works, especially Grein's invaluable Glossary to the Poetry (1861-64), and the glossaries attached to special works, as that of Heyne to "Beowulf," the best of its kind. Ettmüller's and Leo's Lexicons do not come into consideration, for the repelling arrangement of these works will always prevent their general use. The republication of Bosworth was then necessary, and Prof. Toller informs us that "Dr. Bosworth devoted much time and labor to the preparation of a second edition of his dictionary, but at the time of his death [in 1876] only the 288 pages which form Part I of the present issue had been finally revised by him"; and further, that "So much progress had been made with some succeeding sheets that it would have been a matter of considerable difficulty to make any but slight alterations in them. Consequently, after careful consideration, it was thought better to leave unchanged in the text certain points which would have involved extensive modifications, and, when the work should be complete, to note such in the preface or appendix." These quotations give Prof. Toller's point of view. I rather think that he would have done better to make the necessary alterations in the work itself, even at the expenditure of considerable time and labor, for this work, when completed,

will have to serve as the standard Anglo-Saxon dictionary for many years to come. Moreover, Bosworth's views of Anglo-Saxon phonology are completely antiquated, and a modern editor cannot afford to follow them. As to the treatment of *æ* and the separation of the short from the long vowels—both points referred to by Prof. Toller—with respect to the first, *æ* might have been treated alphabetically along with *a*, as Prof. Zupitza has treated it in the glossary to his edition of Cynewulf's *Elene*, or it might have been treated separately immediately after *a*, but it should not have been treated as *æ*. The separation of short from long vowels in the alphabetical list is altogether unnecessary, as Profs. Toller and Zupitza rightly think; in fact, the alphabetical arrangement of Zupitza's brief glossary may be taken as a model by future editors, for it shows, in this respect, a decided advance upon Heyne's arrangement. A more important matter, however, and one not so readily overlooked, is the phonetic quality of *æ*. Prof. Toller simply repeats Bosworth's older statements, *e. g.*, Bosworth: "The short or unaccented Anglo-Saxon *æ* seems to have been a slight lengthening of the short *a*, approaching to *æ* or *ai* in *faery* or *fairy*, as appears from these cognate words: *wael*, wail; *braedan*, to braid; *naegel*, a nail, etc." Toller: "The short or unaccented Anglo-Saxon *æ* has a sound like *ai* in *main* and *fairy*, as appears from these cognate words: *wael*, wail; *braedan*, to braid; *naegel*, a nail, etc." While no longer calling *æ* "a slight lengthening of the short *a*," Prof. Toller leaves unchanged Bosworth's statement as to its pronunciation. Further, Bosworth says: "The long or accented *ē* is found in the following words which are represented by English terms of the same signification, having *ea* sounded as in *deal*, *fear*; *dēl*, *fēr*, etc." Toller: "The long or accented *ē* has the sound of *ea* in *meat*, *sea*. The *ē* is found in the following words, which are represented by English terms of the same signification, having *ea* sounded as in *deal*, *fear*; *dēl*, *fēr*, etc." These views as to the sound of short *æ* and long *ē* are totally at variance with those advocated by modern Anglo-Saxon scholars. Again, Bosworth says: "The *ē* is often changed into *d*, as *stānen*, stony, *stān*, a stone; *lār*, *lār*, lore"; and Toller repeats the statement *verbatim*. This is a decided instance of "cart before the horse," and if we look under *a* we find it reversed. Bosworth says: "The long *d* is often changed into *ē*, as *lēdr*, lore, *lran*, to teach," which also we find repeated *verbatim* in Toller, with the addition of "*ān*, one; *ānig*, any"; so that apparently *d* and *ē* interchange *ad libitum*. The phenomena of *umlaut* (mutation) do not seem to be comprehended yet in England, notwithstanding Mr. Sweet's energetic labors, and dialectic variations receive no consideration. It is to be hoped that when Prof. Toller gets to *i* he will not follow Bosworth and say: "The Anglo-Saxon long or accented *i* had the sound of *i* in *tine*, *fine*, in these cognate words: *tīne*, *fīndan* [?], *wīn*," etc. The late Dr. Bosworth deserves great credit for his valuable services, but his ideas of Anglo-Saxon phonetics should not be taught to the present generation.

The deficiencies of this dictionary have been commented on by Mr. J. Platt in the Transactions of the Philological Society (1882-3-4), by Prof. Wülcker in *Anglia* (V, Anzeiger, Heft 4), and by Prof. Heyne in *Englische Studien* (VII, Heft 1), who is more complimentary than either of the other critics, and praises as it deserves the industry and labor expended on the work, but does not hesitate

to note its shortcomings, and supplies many omitted words. Prof. Wülcker complains that Prof. Toller has incorporated Grein's Glossary into Bosworth's Dictionary, but he could not have neglected that work, and has acknowledged his obligations by the prominence given to Grein's references, although these obligations might have been more distinctly stated in the "Preliminary Notice." The large number of examples and references shows that Prof. Toller has not spared labor, and the almost entire lack of any adequate helps to ascertaining the vocabulary of Anglo-Saxon *prose* works should cause critics to be lenient in judging omissions of words. A cursory comparison of a few columns of Grein's Glossary, s. l. H, with the corresponding words in Part II, prepared by Prof. Toller himself, shows, as was to be expected, numerous additions from the Anglo-Saxon prose vocabulary, and s. v. *han-crēd*, where Grein has but *one* example from the whole body of Anglo-Saxon poetry (Seel. 68), Prof. Toller gives at least *ten* from the prose. Much space is taken up in the repetition of references for the same example, as no less than three for the word above mentioned, "Exon. 99a; Th. 370, 32; Seel. 68." Also, in respect to proper names, which are rightly included, the dictionary emulates the encyclopaedia, and even long extracts, with translation, are given, as under "Beowulf" *twenty-four* lines from Thorpe's edition—in which article, by the way, we are informed that Beowulf was "a relation of Hrothgar," and that this poem "must have been *translated* into Anglo-Saxon by a Christian—perhaps in the reign of Canute, about A. D. 1020." These things ought not so to be. So too under "Brunan-burh," after a long account of the battle and the locality, we have *thirty-six* lines, with translation, from the poem as printed in Dr. Guest's History of English Rhythms. This seems to be an unnecessary consumption of valuable space in a dictionary. It may be added that the only omitted word found in Grein in the columns compared as above was *hangelle*, with example from the Riddles (45<sup>b</sup>).

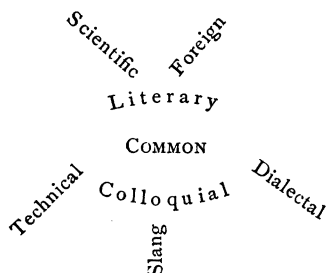
Whatever may be said of the omissions and other shortcomings of the work—and Prof. Toller is well aware of their existence—the dictionary supplies a long-felt want. There is nothing to take its place, and it is to be hoped that Prof. Toller will be able to complete it speedily. Heyne's advice (*Englische Studien*, VII 135, ad fin.) would, however, be well heeded, as, in that event, the value of the two parts still to come, forming the second half of the work, would be much increased, and we should have an Anglo-Saxon dictionary that we might well be proud of.

The publication of the first part of the Philological Society's New English Dictionary, edited by the President of the Society, Dr. J. A. H. Murray, marks an era in English lexicography. Planned over twenty-five years ago, and more than two million quotations soon collected, intermitted for many years, and resumed under its present editorship only five years ago, since which time more than one million additional quotations have been collected, this monumental work now appears in a first part of 352 pages (large 4to), one-fourth of the first of six volumes, the number estimated as requisite for its completion.<sup>1</sup> It is not a matter of regret that this work did not appear sooner.

<sup>1</sup> The number of words included in this part is 8365, more than double the number in the corresponding portion of Webster's dictionary and supplement, and taking this part as a basis of calculation, we are told that the whole work will contain 187,792 *main* entries, or 231,115 entries all together. Of the 6797 *main* words in this part, 1998, or 29 per cent., are marked as obsolete, and 321 as foreign or imperfectly naturalized.

The twenty years publications of the Early English Text Society, and the amount of other work done in English philology during that period, have only now rendered possible the preparation of an English dictionary "on historical principles," and we may now expect a much more thorough and comprehensive work than was possible twenty-five years ago, before the origins of English had been so extensively studied. Dr. Murray's brief Preface and his General Explanations state with sufficient fullness the aim and plan of the work.

"The aim of this dictionary," says he, "is to furnish an adequate account of the meaning, origin, and history of English words now in general use, or known to have been in use at any time during the last *seven hundred* years. It endeavors (1) to show, with regard to each individual word, when, how, in what shape, and with what signification it became English; what development of form and meaning it has since received; which of its uses have, in the course of time, become obsolete, and which still survive; what new uses have since arisen, by what processes, and when; (2) to illustrate these facts by a series of quotations ranging from the first known occurrence of the word to the latest, or down to the present day, the word being thus made to exhibit its own history and meaning; and (3) to treat the etymology of each word on the basis of historical fact and in accordance with the methods and results of modern philological science." This is a more ambitious aim than has ever before been proposed for an English dictionary, and its execution leaves little to be desired. The limit of the Vocabulary, which Dr. Murray represents by the following diagram,



is hard to define. The lexicographer "must include all the 'common words' of literature and conversation, and such of the scientific, technical, slang, dialectal, and foreign words as are passing into common use and approach the position or standing of 'common words,' well knowing that the line which he draws will not satisfy all critics." He well says, "No one man's English is *all* English. The lexicographer must be satisfied to exhibit the greater part of the vocabulary of *each* one, which will be immensely more than the whole vocabulary of *any* one." That these principles are correct will not be disputed, and it is, therefore, surprising what out-of-the-way words have been thought worthy of inclusion.

Another important point to settle was the chronological *terminus a quo*. "The living vocabulary is no more permanent in its constitution than definite in its extent. It is not to-day what it was a century ago, still less what it will be a century hence." "Our own words never become obsolete; it is always

the words of our grandfathers that have died with them." How far back then shall we go in constructing an historical English dictionary? The ideal dictionary would include all words that ever were English, from the earliest Old English remains to the present day. But the English of King Alfred and his successors for wellnigh three hundred years, down to the breaking up of those systematic inflexions which distinguish the Anglo-Saxon from the transition English, is so homogeneous as to deserve a separate treatment, and here Prof. Toller's edition of Bosworth should serve as the historical basis for the New English dictionary.

Dr. Murray has, therefore, well defined his limit: "The present work aims at exhibiting the history and signification of the English words now in use, or known to have been in use since the middle of the *twelfth* century." "We exclude all words that had become obsolete by 1150. But to words actually included this date has no application; their history is exhibited from their first appearance, however early." I think all English scholars will concur with Dr. Murray that this is the proper limit from which to begin, for a dictionary of this character must exhibit the whole field of the Early English vocabulary as well as that of Modern English, and in the case of words that did not become obsolete until after 1150 it must exhibit their history from the earliest period. The Toller-Bosworth dictionary should include all English words in existence down to 1150, even though the last century of this period may be defined as Late Anglo-Saxon, and the two together will then form a complete Thesaurus of the English language.

The vocabulary is classified under (1) Main Words, (2) Subordinate Words, (3) Combinations, but the limits of this notice will permit only brief explanations, and the plan of the work can be readily seen from a cursory examination of one of the specimen pages which have been so widely distributed by the publishers.

The treatment of a Main Word comprises: I. Its identification, which includes the *main form* in its usual spelling, obsolete and non-naturalized words being distinguished by certain marks, the pronunciation, grammatical designation, specification, status, earlier forms, and inflexions. Here it deserves special notice that the *periods* of the language are distinguished by the final figure of the century, as follows: 1. Old English or Anglo-Saxon, to 1100; 2. Old English Transition; 3. Early Middle English; 4. Late Middle English; 5. Middle English Transition; 6. Early Modern English; 7. Middle Modern English; 8, 9. Current English. These are the periods proposed by Dr. Murray in his excellent article on the English language in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* (ninth edition), and there stated to have been first suggested by Mr. Sweet. As they have now been adopted in this dictionary, they should pass into general use and settle the much-discussed question of the chronological divisions of the English language. If a less minute analysis is desired, the terms Old English, or Anglo-Saxon (it matters not which is used), to 1150, Middle English, to 1400, and Modern English, since 1400, might be employed, each of which is susceptible of an Early and a Late division, obliterating the Transition periods.

II. The morphology, or form-history, including derivation, or etymology, subsequent form-history in English, and miscellaneous facts in relation to the

word. Here it deserves notice that "in this dictionary, words originally native are traced to their earliest known English, and, when possible, to their earliest Teutonic form, authenticated and illustrated by the cognate words in other Teutonic languages and dialects; those of foreign origin are referred to the foreign word or elements whence they were immediately adopted or formed. In certain cases these foreign words, especially the French, are themselves traced to their antecedent forms or component elements; but these antecedents are considered only with a view to the clearer comprehension of the history and use of the word in English. To trace the remoter history of these words, and determine their Aryan or other 'roots,' is no part of their English history."

Thus, Dr. Murray's plan differs from that of Prof. Skeat, as attempted in his Etymological English Dictionary, and for the better. Dr. Murray pertinently remarks, in a brief note, "As a rule, it may be assumed that the original form of every Middle English word of French origin was *identical* with the Anglo-French form; and that, where a gap appears between the earliest known English form of a word and its Old French equivalent, that gap would be filled up by the recovery of the Anglo-French and the earliest English form." Just here is the field to which English scholars of Old French should devote themselves, for the influence of Anglo-French upon English during the whole Middle English period has never yet been sufficiently investigated.

III. The signification—and doubtless the minute analysis and development of the different significations of a word, have constituted the most laborious part of the editor's duty. He says: "The order in which these senses were developed is one of the most important facts in the history of the word; to discover and exhibit it are among the most difficult duties of a dictionary which aims at giving this history"; and, further, "To a great extent the *explanations* of the meanings have been framed anew upon a study of all the quotations for each word collected for this work, of which those printed form only a small part. But the labors of other scholars in this, the most successfully cultivated department of English lexicography, have not been neglected." Dr. Johnson and Todd, as well as Bailey, are specially mentioned, but we miss any allusion to more modern lexicographers, who, one would have thought, had made some advance in this department of English lexicography. A brief comparison, however, with any other dictionary, as Webster, for example, under *Advertise* and *Advertisement*, will show the immense difference even in this particular, and the obsolete significations receive special attention from Dr. Murray.

IV. Quotations, in which consists the main strength of this work. When we reflect that 1300 readers of books, in all periods of English, have supplied over 3,500,000 quotations, and that the services of thirty sub-editors have been required to arrange and analyze this immense mass, we can get some idea of the labor expended upon the work. These quotations "are arranged chronologically, so as to give about one for each century, though various considerations often render a larger number necessary." Sometimes, however, we find a much greater difference than a century, as under some of the senses of *After* (cf. III 11, 1230 and 1697), but these omissions are not material. In all cases "the original spelling is retained, as an essential part of the history of the language," and a great help to ascertaining it.

The Subordinate Words include obsolete and variant forms, not readily referred to their original, irregular or peculiar inflexions, alleged words of doubtful formation or existence, and spurious or erroneous forms. Combinations include all collocations of simple words, whether connected by a hyphen or not.

Lastly, the Pronunciation is very carefully exhibited, it being regarded as "the actual living form or forms of a word, that is, *the word itself*, of which the current spelling is only a symbolization." "This living form is the *latest fact* in the form-history of the word, the starting-point of all investigations into its previous history, the only fact in its form-history to which the lexicographer can personally witness." On these principles, then, following the modern phonetic school, Dr. Murray makes a more exact analysis of pronunciation, particularly of the *vowel* sounds, than we are accustomed to find in the ordinary dictionaries. The consonants include *thirty-one* distinct sounds, and the vowels *fifty-nine* (besides *five* minute variations of certain sounds), classed as ordinary (short), long, and obscure. Some might take exception to certain statements, but with respect to pronunciation, more than anything else, is it true that "no one man's English is *all* English."

I have thus endeavored, as far as possible in Dr. Murray's own words, to give an idea of the aim and plan of this great dictionary. The editor may well be congratulated upon the manner in which this plan has been executed. To say that it far surpasses all other works is to pay but a poor tribute to its excellence. Its value from the historical point of view is inestimable, as it presents for the first time a continuous history of English words, ascertained by the strictest inductive process. It is not, however, a dictionary for the scholar only, but for the man of general culture also. While some might desire a larger number of modern examples, and in some cases from works of greater authority than those cited, the limits of the work must be taken into consideration. It may be doubted whether such words as *Absentaneous*, for which no example can be found, and which is given only on the authority of "Bailey, 1721, Ash, 1775, etc.," should be included, or whether any word should be included that is not sustained by a positive example from some English work. Possibly omissions may be found by those who search for them carefully, but they will be few.

Certainly earlier examples than any given of the use of certain words or phrases, or of words in special meanings, will be found. A few notes made in reading with a class the extracts in Morris and Skeat's *Specimens of Early English* enable me to add the following earlier examples: *Abash* is found in Robert of Brunne's *Handlyng Synne*, 5642 (c. 1303), "And was *abashed* as [a] mad." *Accord* occurs in the sense of *to be at accord* in *The Owl and Nightingale*, 181 (c. 1250), "*þeȝ we ne beon at one acorde*"; *Adventure* occurs in the phrase *on adventure* in Robert of Gloucester (Morris, Part II, 176, c. 1297), "*þat anaunter ȝif euermo keueringe þer-of is*." Moreover, if Maetznér is correct, *Amad* in *King Horn*, 574, is another form of *Amayed*, dismayed (from O. Fr. *esmaier*), and is not the same as *Amad*, distracted (from O. E. *gemæd*), as both Stratmann and Wissmann take it; the example does not occur in Murray. Such slight inconsistencies as assigning King Alfred's Baeda to 885 under *Abbatess* and to 880 under *Abbot*, and King Horn to 1270 under *Aby* and to



1300 under *Admiral*, scarcely deserve mention, and denote simply that different sub-editors have worked up these articles.

It is to be hoped that the succeeding parts of the work will not be long delayed, and that the editor will be supplied with all the editorial and clerical assistance necessary to enable him to prepare them as rapidly as is consistent with thoroughness and accuracy. It would be of service in the use of the dictionary if the list of works read, with their full titles and dates, should be published with the second part, and not delayed for several years until the work is completed. Besides the convenience of reference, any omissions of works that it might be desirable to read could be supplied. All English-speaking people may be congratulated on the prospect of possessing, in the course of time, a dictionary worthy to be ranked alongside of the great works of Grimm and Littré, and in some respects superior to them. Americans also will deserve a share in the credit due, for they, too, have furnished a large number of readers for this comprehensive work embracing the English vocabulary of over seven hundred years.

JAMES M. GARNETT.

Altfranzösische Bibliothek. Herausgegeben von Dr. WENDELIN FOERSTER. Achter Band, Orthographia Gallica, ältester Traktat über Französische Aussprache und Orthographie, nach vier Handschriften, zum ersten Mal herausgegeben von J. STÜRZINGER. Heilbronn, Verlag von Gebr. Henninger, 1884. xlv, 52 S.

A critical edition of the oldest known treatise on French pronunciation and orthography is here brought out in good time by an enthusiastic, hard-working Privat Docent of Bonn. His careful and thorough treatment of the Raetoromanische Conjugation (Winterthur, 1879), of the Sacrifice d'Abrahaam (Romania, 1881), and the publication of the London text of Girard de Rosillon (Boehmer's Romanische Studien), had already been sufficient to warrant the expectation that this number of the Altfranzösische Bibliothek would contain much of importance for the Romance scholar, and, in fact, for the present state of the problem touching the relation of written signs to their phonetic equivalents, this contribution cannot be too highly valued. The work in itself bears directly upon a limited field of sound notation, that is, the French; but in its constant reference to English, it becomes of scarcely less interest to the English scholar than to the specialist in the Neo-Latin idioms. In his introduction, the editor gives us a little more than twenty pages on the history of French grammar in England before the sixteenth century, which he follows up by about the same number, on a discussion of the MSS, according to which the Orthographia Gallica is here published.

The rest of the work is divided in two equal parts, where the former, the original treatise, is disposed into three parallel columns, by which arrangement the discrepancies and agreements of the several manuscripts are manifest at a glance, while the latter is separated into two sections that comprise nearly thirty-five pages of *variae lectiones* and notes.

The French language; in England, has been compared to an exotic plant which, transplanted into a foreign soil, developed for a time, then sickened